

PLAIN TALKS

October-November 1989

Volume 68 Number 8

Dropping in for lunch

Encouraging
minority business

Kid safety –
no monkey business

Thanks for
your business



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Members of the Sabine Station emergency response team demonstrate the traverse, a structural rescue maneuver, over participants of the Southwest Electric Safety Exchange meeting at the Beaumont Plaza Holiday Inn atrium (pages 8-9). Photo by Scott Harper.



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Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-forms (GSU0012-00-81) and return them to the mailroom in the Edison Plaza. GSU publications, departmental mailings and other company information are not automatically forwarded; addresses must be corrected when employees move.

McMarketing success in Louisiana divisions



L to R, Charles Coleman, district superintendent, Ann Matheny, senior district service representative, and Stewart at Zachary's first all-electric McDonald's.

by John Stewart and Scott Harper

July 27 marked the beginning of a new era in fast food marketing for the Baton Rouge Division. On that date, the division's first true all-electric McDonald's restaurant held its grand opening in Zachary.

All of the facility's operations exclusively utilize electricity, including the preparation of food, heating water and comfort conditioning. McDonald's became interested in the all-electric concept after John Stewart, Baton Rouge marketing coordinator, contacted the restaurant, pointing out the economical and laborsaving merits of modern electric restaurant equipment.

The facility is a franchise operated by McDonald's of Baton Rouge, a company that operates over two dozen McDonald's restaurants in the Baton Rouge area. John Valluzzo, McDonald's director of operations, had nothing but praise for the equipment selections. "We are especially impressed with the fryers and a relatively new piece of equipment, the clamshell grills," says Valluzzo. "The fryers are computerized, easier to maintain and release much less heat into the kitchen area than the old gas units."

Valluzzo says the clamshell grills are particularly efficient. "Heating elements on the lid and grill surface cook hamburgers on both sides simultaneously. Frozen burgers can be cooked in 39 seconds. The top cooking surface features a disposable teflon sheet which makes cleanup fast and simple."

"The fryers are computerized, easier to maintain and release much less heat ... than the old gas units."

John Valluzzo
McDonald's

The restaurant dining area is cooled by 37 tons of air-conditioning and heated by 90 kw in resistance strips. The water is heated electrically by a high-efficiency RUUD 85 gallon unit.

Lake Charles Division has had a similar fast food marketing success. Two McDonald's restaurants have converted from gas to electric. "They changed their gas griddles to electric clamshell griddles," says Bob Mayo, marketing agent, Lake Charles.

Mayo says the main reasons for switching to electricity were trouble with even dispersion of heat across the gas griddle cooking surface and the faster cooking time of the electric griddle. "They've been very pleased with the conversion," says Mayo.

Popeye's Fried Chicken, another fast food restaurant in the Lake Charles area, recently converted to electricity. "I talked to Popeye's and told them by using electricity, less heat would be generated in the kitchen and they would not have to change their shortening as often because they could control the temperature on electric fryers better," says Mayo.

Popeye's heeded Mayo's advice and switched out their gas fryers for electric fryers. "They've been very pleased," says Mayo.

GSU opens the door to safety awareness for latchkey kids



Sue Williams leads a Project Home Safe in-service training for teachers at Lee Elementary in Port Arthur.

story and photo by Scott Harper

As the afternoon school bell rings, 8-year-old Brenda darts out the front door to catch her bus home. After a brief ride, she arrives at the end of her driveway where she checks the mailbox, picks up the newspaper and her dog chases her to the front door. She finds the housekey in her purse and unlocks the door. She will be in the house alone for the next two hours. What if there is an emergency? What will Brenda do? Who will she call?

This scenario is acted out by 5 million school-age children in the United States every week, with the number growing each year. Researchers say that by 1995 more than three-fourths of all American school-age children will have parents in the workforce.

To educate children who must be home alone, GSU is starting Project Home Safe, a pilot program about self-care, to be administered in elementary schools in Port Arthur, Beaumont and Western Divisions.

"This is an excellent program," says Connie Calfee, customer information coordinator, Conroe. "It addresses the latchkey problem which is closely related to other social problems such as juvenile delinquency and teen pregnancy. It really effects everyone."

Carol Morris, Conroe customer information coordinator, agrees.

"Texas is the leading state in pregnancy rates of children under the age of 14," she notes.

Morris points out every case does not have a negative outcome. "It depends on the family and their values."

Project Home Safe, a national program funded by The Whirlpool Foundation (the philanthropic function of the Whirlpool corporation), is administered by The American Home Economists Association. Calfee and Morris attended a training session for the program presented by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service at Texas A&M and passed the idea on to Beaumont and Port Arthur Divisions.

The program presents kids with needed information such as fire and electrical safety, first aid, how to get home safely from school, kitchen safety, emergency phone numbers and what to do if a stranger comes to the house.

After completing a needs assessment of selected elementary schools, the three Texas Divisions developed implementation plans.

"We're targeting fourth graders in Austin Elementary in Cut-n-Shoot," says Calfee. "We'll be training volunteers from the Parent-Teacher Organization and a local homemakers club to teach a series of lessons on self-care."

Morris adds, "We'll also be sending a newsletter to the parents

to get them involved."

In Beaumont, Jonell Barrett, customer information coordinator, says teachers at Roy Guess Elementary will be presenting four lessons to third, fourth and fifth graders accompanied by a booklet called, "What If I'm Home Alone?"

"The school administrators are very supportive and definitely feel there's a need for this," says Barrett. "They were pleased we approached them."

Sue Williams, supervisor-customer services, says Port Arthur Division is aiming the program initially at third, fourth and fifth graders of Lee Elementary in Port Arthur and will also be using the booklet. "We've set up a teacher in-service training to prepare them to teach six lessons to the kids," says Williams. "The teacher can teach all six lessons or group it however she wants."

All three divisions are working with the Texas Extension Service and Beaumont and Port Arthur are working with the Lamar University Home Economics Department. If all goes well, additional schools will be added next year.

"This is something vitally needed," concludes Morris. "Any child will eventually be alone in some circumstance. This information will benefit them."



Draper, Deddens and Durham with EEI Safety Award.



Hutchison, Draper



Gautreau, McAndrew



Hebert, Webb, Draper

Four employees receive Lifesaving Award

Four employees recently received the President's Life Saving Award from Dr. Linn Draper, GSU president and CEO. They were Danny Hutchison, truck driver-T&D, Beaumont; Murphy Gautreau, meter reader-supervisor, Baton Rouge; Floyd Hebert, mechanical maintenance supervisor, Sabine Station and Ronnie Webb, repairman-1st class, Sabine Station.

On May 14, Hutchison and his family were eating supper at a restaurant in Nederland when he noticed a man sitting nearby choking and unable to breathe. Hutchison performed the Heimlich maneuver until the man was able to breathe on his own. "Danny, this award recognizes your willingness to help a fellow human being in distress," said Draper.

On May 28, Gautreau and some employees at Essen Lane were having lunch in the coffee shop. Hazel McAndrew, senior clerk, choked on some food she was eating. Gautreau dislodged the food by performing the Heimlich maneuver. "Thank you very much, Murphy," said Draper. "I want to extend my thanks and admiration for the part you played in assisting Hazel."

Hebert, Webb and their families were spending a weekend in Galveston this past April. Hebert and his grandchild were walking along the beach when suddenly his grandchild slipped into a washed

out area of water 6 feet deep. Hebert quickly rescued her. Later that evening, the family groups were walking along the same area of beach when he noticed three small children playing in the same area where his grandchild had fallen into deep water. As he watched, all three children slipped into the water.

Hebert, his brother and Webb ran into the water, clothes and all, and rescued the children. "Floyd, you and Ronnie are both to be commended," said Draper. "I congratulate you both for this, and am extremely proud of you for being sensitive to the safety of the small children."

River Bend earns EEI Safety Award

According to Jim Deddens, senior vice-president-RBNG, River Bend has been recognized with an award from The Edison Electric Institute (EEI), the association of investor-owned utilities in the United States, for achieving over 8 million manhours of work without a lost-time injury. River Bend employees have not had a lost-time injury since plant construction began in 1979. "This is an award EEI presents to plants when they pass a million manhour milepost," says Mike Durham, manager-occupational health and safety, Beaumont.

Durham notes this record continues to mount near the 9 million manhour mark, representing the best known record in the United States for a single-unit power

plant, both nuclear and non-nuclear.

On Nov. 6, the River Bend safety record exceeded the company's existing record for an operating unit set by Baton Rouge Division in 1965 totalling 8,986,638 manhours. This mark established a world record for electric utility operations at that time. The National Safety Council plaque, which recognizes this accomplishment, is on display at the Edison Plaza Museum.

"The River Bend safety record is reflective of the high quality of operations at the plant," says Durham. "Enthusiasm for safety is very high and I project they will continue to be good safety performers because of that."



ABOVE: Top, Arden Loughmiller, Beaumont Division vice president, gives a talk to the captains as Co-Chair Mark Wilson prepares to show the United Way (UW) video.

Upper center, (l to r) Chair Melvin Clark, Co-Chair Lanard Meche, Brent Royer, Boy's Club National Boy of the Year, Darryl Byrd and Happy Bryan of the Lafayette UW, at the kick-off meeting.

Lower center, Lloyd Engler and Al Dragg at the UW Jambayla Cooking Contest in Baton Rouge.

Above, Lake Charles UW volunteers, (l to r) Gloria Hebert, Gary Fontenot, Keith Browning, Monica Thomas, Melvin Wilks, Tina Northcutt, Rickie Farque and Charlie Elter.

RIGHT: Lower left, At River Bend, Anita Bordelon, UW committee member, and Chair Carol Cronin prepare final correspondence.

Upper left, Chair Calvin Ford (seated) and Co-Chairs Anita Bordelon and Dwayne Breaux (l to r) await news that goals were met in Baton Rouge.

Upper right, Western Division captains, Front, Chair Paula Colmer, Sheron Miller, Betty Wheaton, Jeanette Acreman, Back, Mike Walker, Co-Chair Mark Fruge, Andy Rodriguez and Darrell Borski.

Lower right, Port Arthur UW Committee: seated, (l to r) Sue Simon, Cyndee Williams, Linda Breaux and Camille Girouard, Standing, Gwen Champagne, Phyllis Landry, Beverly Louis and Linda Judice.

Employees give from the

by Ann O'Neill



For 64 years, GSU employees have lent a hand to the United Way effort by donating both money and time. The 1990 campaign was no exception. Employees served in volunteer capacities as account executives, members of the Budget and Admissions Committee and on the Board of Directors of United Way.

Employees from throughout the GSU system donated over \$414,500, which was a 5 percent increase over 1989. Approximately 40 percent gave fair shares.

Dwayne Breaux, serviceman-1st class, Baton Rouge, says the campaign gives a feeling of doing something good for the community. "We speak for those who can't speak and walk for those who can't walk."

Mark Wilson, staff accountant I, Beaumont, says, "I feel the United Way provides the best method for making a charitable contribution because my donation reaches such a variety of agencies. I like the fact

that we are supporting local agencies which help our neighbors, relatives and friends. We can see our money at work."

A videotape produced by Robert Adams, senior audio/visual support specialist, with a musical assist from Scott Harper, employee communications representative, was GSU's special gift to the Beaumont and North Jefferson County campaign.

From his in-depth interviewing of recipients and volunteer workers for United Way, Adams says he gained new appreciation of the great things United Way accomplishes. "They serve a need that is not met by any other organization," Adams continues, "They helped Jennifer Garza, one of the people in the video, accomplish something she was told she would never do. That was...to walk. The pain she went through showed during the interview; but so did her joy, and that makes me feel good about United Way."



GSU's minority business program best in 11 states

by Scott Harper

Gulf States recognizes minority businesses as viable competitive suppliers and works to promote minority business success in the GSU service area. These activities have led to local and national recognition of Gulf States as a company which actively supports minority business.

GSU's minority business program has existed since 1980. "As a result of a contract with the government to sell electricity, we were asked to have a minority purchasing plan," says Jan Smith, purchasing agent-small and small disadvantaged business representative, Beaumont. "I would venture to say even if we had not signed a contract, we would have a minority program because it's good business sense to try to attract as many vendors as possible."

The contract calls for the company to establish goals for purchases to be made from minority businesses. The actual dollar figures spent with minority suppliers are reported to the U.S. General Services Administration each year.

GSU's minority business efforts were recognized in September by the Triplex Minority Business Development Center (TMBDC) in Beaumont, an organization funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce. Gulf States received the 1989 Corporate Award for the

Triplex area at a TMBDC conference organized to educate minority vendors and give them opportunities to meet with company representatives.

A few weeks later, the company was recognized nationally in Washington D.C. by the Minority Business Development Agency where Smith accepted the 1989 Corporate Award for our region. The award reads, "In recognition of your dedication, enthusiasm, cooperation and distinguished service in promoting minority business." Smith notes, "Our particular region has 11 states in it. This award is quite an honor."

One of Smith's primary tasks is compiling a minority vendor directory and distributing this to GSU purchasing agents. Gulf States' minority vendor directory, which included 140 entries in 1984, has

grown to 433 entries in 1989.

According to Smith, one of the hurdles facing minority businesses is not knowing the right people to talk to. Her role at GSU allows her to serve as a coordinator for minority vendors. "I guide them to the right people," says Smith. "I attend minority business fairs and other functions as the GSU representative. This helps to establish that GSU has a program and policy of working with minority businesses and that I am the GSU contact for this program."

Smith stresses the company's commitment to encourage minority business in our service area. "We actively seek out minority vendors so we can give them every opportunity to bid competitively on goods and services needed by GSU."

Scott Harper



As the GSU representative for the minority program, Smith (left) maintains contact with minority business suppliers such as Louis Hernandez (right), owner, Hernandez' Computer and Office Supplies, Nederland.

Homer Smith



In Washington, D.C., Smith (right) accepts the 1989 Corporate Award from Kenneth E. Bolton, MBDA director, (center), and Rafael L. Franchi, (left) MBDA deputy director.



Rescue team on SWESE

story and photos by Scott Harper

It looked like a routine luncheon at a regional conference. As participants of the Southwest Electric Safety Exchange (SWESE) sat down for a relaxing lunch at the biannual conference hosted by Gulf States at the Beaumont Plaza Holiday Inn atrium, the Sabine Station emergency response team rappelled downward 85 feet from the top of the atrium.

"We were looking for something interesting and innovative," says Ray Thompson, supervisor-safety and health-Texas, Beaumont. "We felt the rescue team's demonstration of structural rescue techniques would be different."

"We wanted to show other utilities the equipment and trained personnel we have available to do confined space and structural rescue," says Mike Case, safety and health representative, Sabine Station. "We felt a hands-on demonstration was much better than a video or book."

SWESE meets every March and September and is attended by 16 utility companies from Oklahoma, New Mexico, Texas and Louisiana. During the three-day meeting, companies exchange safety information about accidents, new training aids and new equipment.

n drops in conference



Left, Gerald Waldrep, repairman-1st class, and Prince prepare victim Harvey Powell, repairman-1st class, to be lowered down eight stories. Below, Waldrep and Prince assist James Braus, control operations foreman, over the edge for the litter walkover maneuver.

According to Thompson, Gulf States was instrumental in the organization of SWESE. "Our company hosted the first meeting in 1950 with five or six other utilities involved."

The emergency response team, under the direction of Mike McQueen, equipment operator, Sabine Station, performed two maneuvers: the traverse and the litter walkover.

Team member Mark Prince, Sabine Station test technician-1st class, explains, "The traverse is a maneuver used to extract victims at a high elevation out and away from the structure if some danger is below them like a fire or chemical hazard."

"The litter walkover is where one or two rescuers walk over the edge of the structure and attend to the victim in the basket or litter while being lowered to safety."

"We preplan every time we demonstrate according to what we will be doing," says McQueen. "We inspected the Holiday Inn to find out where the anchor points would be."

According to McQueen, the team works out on a monthly basis at the plant. "We currently have nine people trained. At any given time,



we have one to five people at the plant who are trained to take care of an emergency."

Case adds, "One person can instruct other employees in an actual emergency. The plant is covered 24 hours a day."

McQueen and Case both feel the demonstration was well received. "The people were really impressed. None of the other utilities are doing this," says Case. McQueen continues, "They

wanted to know how to get the equipment and training."

Case says the emergency response team is like a spare tire. "You hope you never need to use it; but, if you do, it's there."

Customer Appreciation Day

"We appreciate your business"

There's no doubt the customer is our livelihood. To show our appreciation to the customer, GSU offices throughout the system observed "Customer Appreciation Day." On selected days this year, customers visiting their local Gulf States office were greeted by Louie the Lightning Bug, Reddy Kilo-watt, cookies, punch and lots of smiling employees saying, "We appreciate your business!"

"We want the customer to really know we appreciate them," says Debbie Morrison, supervisor-customer services, Beaumont. "We also want to remind all employees to not lose sight of what's truly important to our business- the customer."

On this page is a photo feature of some of the customer appreciation activities held this year.

Helen Kennedy



Lafayette

Clint Lilley



Cleveland

Pris Gallagher



Essen Lane, Baton Rouge

Scott Harper



Lake Charles



Beaumont

MAILBOX



On the ball

"I would like to take a moment to express my sincere thanks to those employees responsible for providing Raywood with electricity," writes Sharron M. Ericson, Raywood customer. "They have been on the ball in my area and I feel they need appreciated thanks."

"During Hurricane Chantal, we lost power and I expressed to dispatchers that I had fish that had been hours without air and had just purchased \$150 worth of frozen foods. They came out between 9:30 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. with hungry mosquitoes everywhere and fixed our lights!"

"Thanks for all the loyal support your employees have given to customers such as myself. People don't appreciate GSU until they are in the dark."

Clint Moss



Pryor

Quick assistance

"I want to thank you for getting me help so quick," writes Myrtle L. Zahn, Winnie customer and widow of GSU retiree Henry Zahn, to **Julie Pryor**, local office clerk, Winnie, regarding assistance she received after her lights went out.

"It has made me feel good to see all the work crews for Gulf States Utilities lined up at the Winnie office for their work schedules ... I hope GSU will always be concerned about the widows of their former employees."

Utility angels

"Did you know that angels can be men without wings who work for Gulf States Utilities?! It's true!" writes Lisa Cross to **Buddy Johnson**, district superintendent, Winnie. Cross ran out of gas on Interstate 10 south of Winnie and was rescued by crews restoring service after Hurricane Chantal.

"I'm certain I looked really pitiful so they stopped to see why I was screaming at their truck. They then sent **Greg Shepard** (marketing supervisor, Beaumont) with gas. I cannot tell you how much I appreciated their willingness to be used as answer to prayer ... Their example of helpfulness will not be forgotten."

Senior report

"Thank you for being so pleasant and willing to help me. It is a pleasure to know that there is a program at your company to assist the senior citizens in our community," writes Port Arthur customer **Lizetta Hawkins** to **Brenda Broussard**, customer information coordinator, Port Arthur.

"You have been very prompt in servicing this account. I really appreciate your help. Please extend this thank you to the supervisor and **Debbie Peron**. May God bless you."

Peron is a customer contact clerk and **Sue Williams** is supervisor-customer services, both in Port Arthur.

Minority support

Jan Smith, purchasing agent, Beaumont, received this thank you letter from Don Wise, project manager, Triplex Minority Business Development Center, Beaumont:

"I can only express my sincere appreciation for Gulf States Utilities' booth participation in our MED Week Conference ... Your support was invaluable in our efforts to assist the minority, women and small business community ... Thanks again for your time, patience, contribution and tireless efforts. We look forward to your continued support."

Helen Kennedy



Ousse and Luther

Westlake winner

Ted Mienscher, Lake Charles Division vice president, received this letter from B.A. Gill, project coordinator, Westlake Petrochemicals Corporation, Sulphur, La.:

"I want to commend your people for a job well done. Your folks moved on to our Ethylene site and began setting poles and hanging transformers for temporary power. The first couple of days were hectic due to rain and intense heat ... Through all of this, the work was done in a very professional and timely manner."

"**Jeff Ezernack** and **Kermit Thompson** were very cooperative and helpful. I would hope for this kind of relationship from all our suppliers."

Ezernack is an industrial engineer and Thompson is a merit roll technician, both in Lake Charles.

No complaints

Francis Paul Sr., Scott, La. customer, sent in these comments:

"This is to inform you of the very good service I have received from your company. I have been serviced since 1970 with no complaints. Thanks again."

Clear ditch

Abbeville, La. customers **Joe and Glinda Vice** had been having flooding problems ever since they had enclosed their ditch with 18-inch culverts. Upon further examination, they noticed the driveway ditch at the Meaux Community substation was completely blocked and water could not flow. When leaving for work one morning, Mr. Vice spoke to **Robert Ousse** about the flooding problem.

"Within a half hour, my husband was contacted by **Bill Luther**. He gave assurance that the matter would be taken care of. The following day the ditch was being dug and, within two days, the culverts were in and finished."

"My husband and I would like to thank Mr. Luther and crew for their expedited help and cooperation. It's nice to know that there are still good people working for big companies who listen to the little people like us."

Ousse, utility foreman-substation, and Luther, substation, relay and communications-supervisor, are both in Lafayette.

SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

September/October

1989

Service
Anniversaries

30 YEARS

Aubrey M. Smith
Electric T&D
Conroe
Harry J. Stelly
General Services
Lake Charles
Tite Baudoin
Electric T&D
Lafayette
Thomas W. Hoffpauir
Electric T&D
Lake Charles
Odea V. McNeil Jr.
Plant Production
Sabine Station
Richard T. Green
Accounting Services
Beaumont
Raymond J. Adrio
General Services
Beaumont
Gilbert W. Hiter
Marketing
Baton Rouge
Thomas W. Fails
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

20 YEARS

Roger D. Gatlin
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
Robert R. Hebert
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
Leslie E. Jones
Customer Service
Beaumont
Raymond Pascual Jr.
Electric T&D
Beaumont
James C. Milton Jr.
Electric T&D
Lake Charles
Joseph Rose Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
Delbert R. Zimmerly
Power Interconnections
Beaumont
Sybil D. King
Division Accounting
Denham Springs
Melvin J. Clark
Electric T&D
Lafayette
Ronald J. Howard
Electric T&D
Conroe
Lynn F. Bouillion
Plant Production
Sabine Station
Leroyal Wilson
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
Joe R. Bowen
Electric T&D
The Woodlands
Frank D. Rozas
Electric T&D
Lafayette
Otis T. Boles
Electric T&D
Cleveland
Francis L. Burgess
Engineering Services
Beaumont
Joseph E. Budd
Engineering Services
Beaumont
Judith F. Waldrep
Purchasing
Beaumont
Barry W. Daniels
Plant Production
Willow Glen
Leon Edwards
Electric T&D
Jackson
Clinon Gibson
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
Kenneth C. Russell Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
Robert Hebert
Electric T&D
Lafayette
Ronald L. Hunt
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge
Joseph G. Reine Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

10 YEARS

Earnest L. Singletary
Division Operations
Madisonville
James E. Gammage
Plant Production
Neches Station
Guy R. Reid Jr.
Plant Production
Willow Glen
Richard A. Landry Jr.
Electric T&D
Conroe
Robert J. Summers
General Services
Beaumont

10 YEARS

Gregory R. Marshall
Plant Production
Lewis Creek

Donald Z. Pumphrey
Public Affairs
Beaumont

Thompson W. Barnett
Plant Production
Willow Glen

Linda M. Breaux
Division Accounting
Port Arthur

David B. Darbonne
Plant Production
Willow Glen

Arlon L. Davis
Plant Production
Sabine Station

Lellie S. Root
Plant Production
Sabine Station

Richie D. Wright
Electric T&D
Conroe

Debra J. Russell
Marketing
Baton Rouge

David A. Sonnier
Plant Production
Nelson Station

Larry Landry
Division Accounting
Beaumont

Brenda M. Beavers
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Frank W. Gammage
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Curnnie L. Ballard Jr.
RBNG Projects
River Bend

Michael L. Jones
Engineering
Beaumont

Karen B. Hanf
Division Accounting
Vidor

Ralph Johnson
Plant Production
Willow Glen

Paul Richard
Division Accounting
Baton Rouge

John M. Adams
Division Operations
Calvert

Henry J. Gaus II
Plant Production
Neches Station

John Ringo
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Bobby R. Brown
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Jean L. Hollier
Electric T&D
Lafayette

Richard P. Brannan
Computer Applications
Beaumont

Cindy R. Hebert
Division Accounting
Lafayette

Robert D. Mayo
Marketing
Lake Charles

Aaron McNeal
Electric T&D
Lake Charles

Phillip C. Waller
System Operations
Beaumont

Horace Braziel Jr.
Plant Production
Lewis Creek

Michael W. Lethermon
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Daniel W. Batiste
Plant Production
Nelson Station

Florence L. Day
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Scott A. Godfrey
Plant Production
Willow Glen

Mary S. Sims
Division Accounting
Beaumont

Robert G. Spedale
Plant Production
Louisiana Station

Sidney J. Bob
Engineering
Beaumont

Larry R. Williams
Gas Department
Baton Rouge

Harold W. Allbritton
Electric T&D
Orange

Raymus D. Bushnell
Plant Production
Nelson Station

Barry N. Carpenter
Plant Production
Willow Glen

Mark D. Coody
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Stephen R. Gilbreath
Plant Production
Sabine Station

Claiborne L. Randall
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

Gene B. Worthy Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge

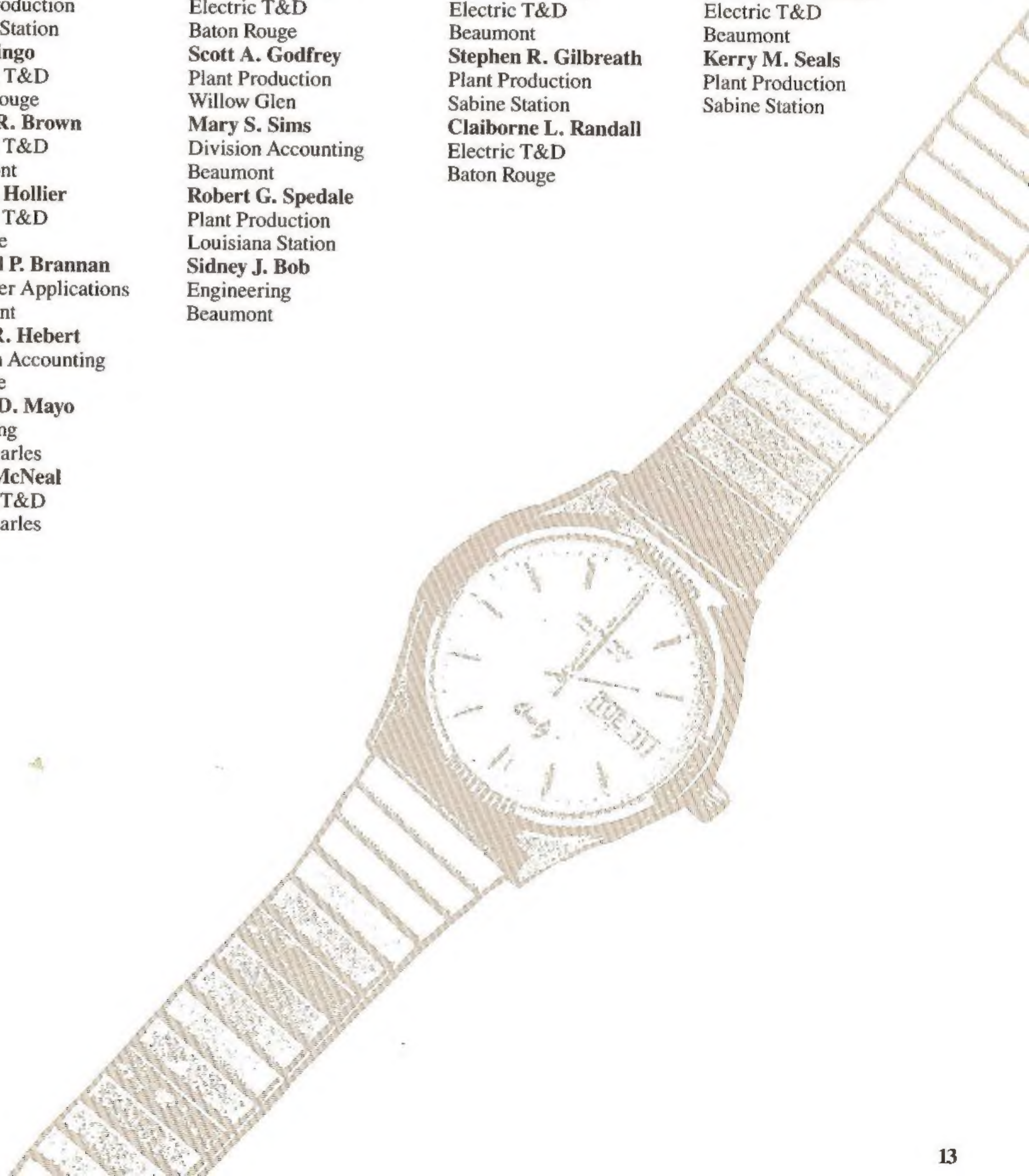
James T. Ford
Plant Production
Sabine Station

Peter L. Hunt
Electric T&D
Beaumont

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Plant Production
Nelson Station

Steven J. Trammell
Electric T&D
Beaumont

Kerry M. Seals
Plant Production
Sabine Station



Essen Lane employees lift needles and spirits on quilting project

Mamie Burrell

Last Thanksgiving, Essen Lane employees enjoyed a steak dinner with all the trimmings, thanks to the profits generated from their coffee shop. In the midst of festivities, the suggestion was made that the coffee shop committee organize an employee Christmas party for 1989. The committee agreed and began organizing the project in January.

"Employee spirits have been high," says Kutay Mahoney, division accounting clerk and coffee shop committee member. "At the beginning of the year, the entire building bubbled with ideas to help raise money to cover expenses above the estimated coffee shop profits for 1989."

Several fundraisers throughout the year included taco and donut sales. One of the more innovative fundraisers was the creation of a handmade country quilt wall hanging. The wall hanging, along with a



Essen Lane employees display the country quilt. L to R, Judy Clark, Kay Monk, Susan Bench, Vicky Greer, Mary Tucker, Jennifer Buhler, Byrd Hutchinson, Cyn Fontenette, Sharon Bourgeois and Kutay Mahoney.

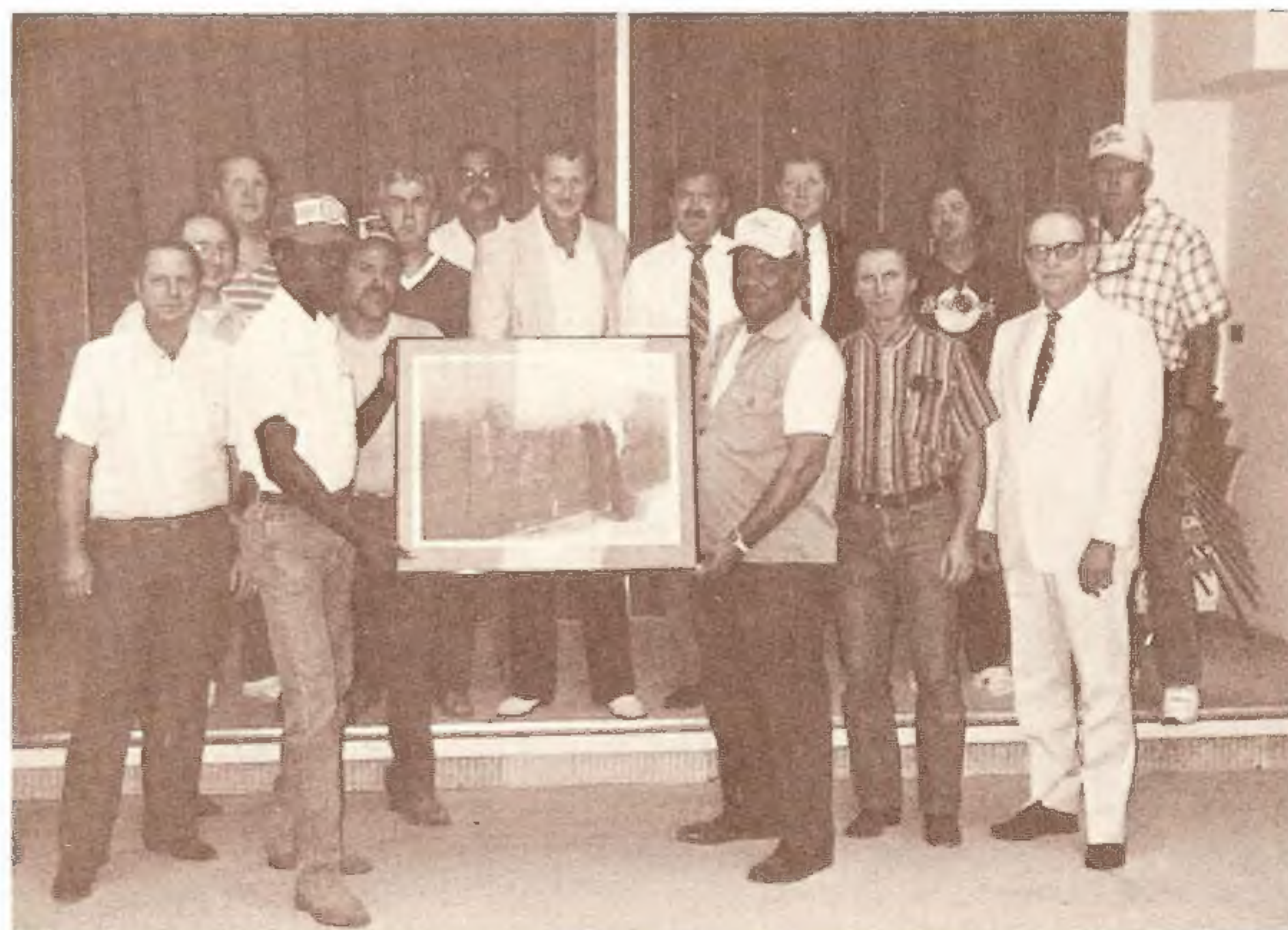
queen size quilt with matching pillow shams, will be raffled off in November.

Last March, employees began cross-stitching squares that were financially sponsored by another employee. "For months, you couldn't help but see someone cross-stitching on their coffee

break or lunch hour as they sat in the coffee shop," says Mahoney. After all 39 pieces were completed, the Istrouma Baptist Church Quilters, in Baton Rouge, did the quilting.

"This was truly a project that brought everyone together," says Mahoney.

Gulf States helped bring the Vietnam Memorial Moving Wall to Lake Charles this past summer. Over 60,000 people from Lake Charles and surrounding areas viewed the Moving Wall, a replica of the wall located in Washington, D.C. In appreciation of the company's assistance, GSU was presented a print of "Reflections", an artist's conception of a Vietnam Veteran's first trip to the wall. Several Lake Charles, Sulphur and Westlake GSU Vietnam Veterans were on hand for the presentation.



Scott Harper



Cobb

Cobb elected vice president

Ann Cobb, corporate secretary, Beaumont, was elected vice president by the Gulf States board of directors in September. Cobb, a native of Beaumont, has served as corporate secretary since 1979 and has 34 years of service with GSU.

Cobb, who attended Lamar University and was graduated from the University of Michigan Public Utility Executive Program, serves as a director and secretary-treasurer of the Edison Plaza Museum board.

Some of Cobb's community positions include director of the Beaumont United Way campaign and member of the organization's Budget and Admissions Committee, president of the Executive Women's Forum for 1988-90 and former director of the American Heart Association.

Scott Harper



Reddy Volunteers at Sabine Station were recognized by the Bridge City Chamber of Commerce for their cleanup efforts on Roundbunch road, as part of Operation Clean Streets. The employees were honored with the September Business Beautification Award which stood at the Sabine Station gate for one month. On hand for the award ceremony were (l to r, back row) Horace Taylor, operation supervisor; Walter Lane, repairman-1st class; Henry Welch, electrical maintenance foreman; Tom Perry, Bridge City councilman; (front row), Sarah West, Operation Clean Streets chairman; Sue Williams, supervisor-customer services, Port Arthur; and Charlotte Chiasson, Bridge City Chamber of Commerce.



In August, Edison Plaza employees participated in a bowl-a-thon at the Crossroads Bowling Center in Beaumont to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Five teams competed and raised over \$600. "It was a good event," says Tootie Koons, community affairs coordinator, Beaumont. "Everyone who participated had a fun time." Members of "The Round Clowns," one of the competing teams, include (l to r) Cathy Hanson, departmental clerk; June Kaulfus, stenographer-senior; Ed Loggins, senior executive vice president; and Lonnie Cobb, manager-production support.

Liz Duhon



Lafayette Reddy Volunteers, along with several banks and businesses, worked together to renovate the lights in the Meaux Elementary School library. Banks and businesses donated cash contributions, three electrical supply houses donated fluorescent light bulbs and GSU donated the manpower. (l to r) Gene Sarver, senior engineering assistant; Melvin Clark, service foreman; and Garland Lege, utility foreman-line, volunteered their time and services one afternoon to complete the project. Meaux Elementary has been a GSU customer for approximately 54 years.

PLAIN TALKS

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Beaumont, Texas 77704

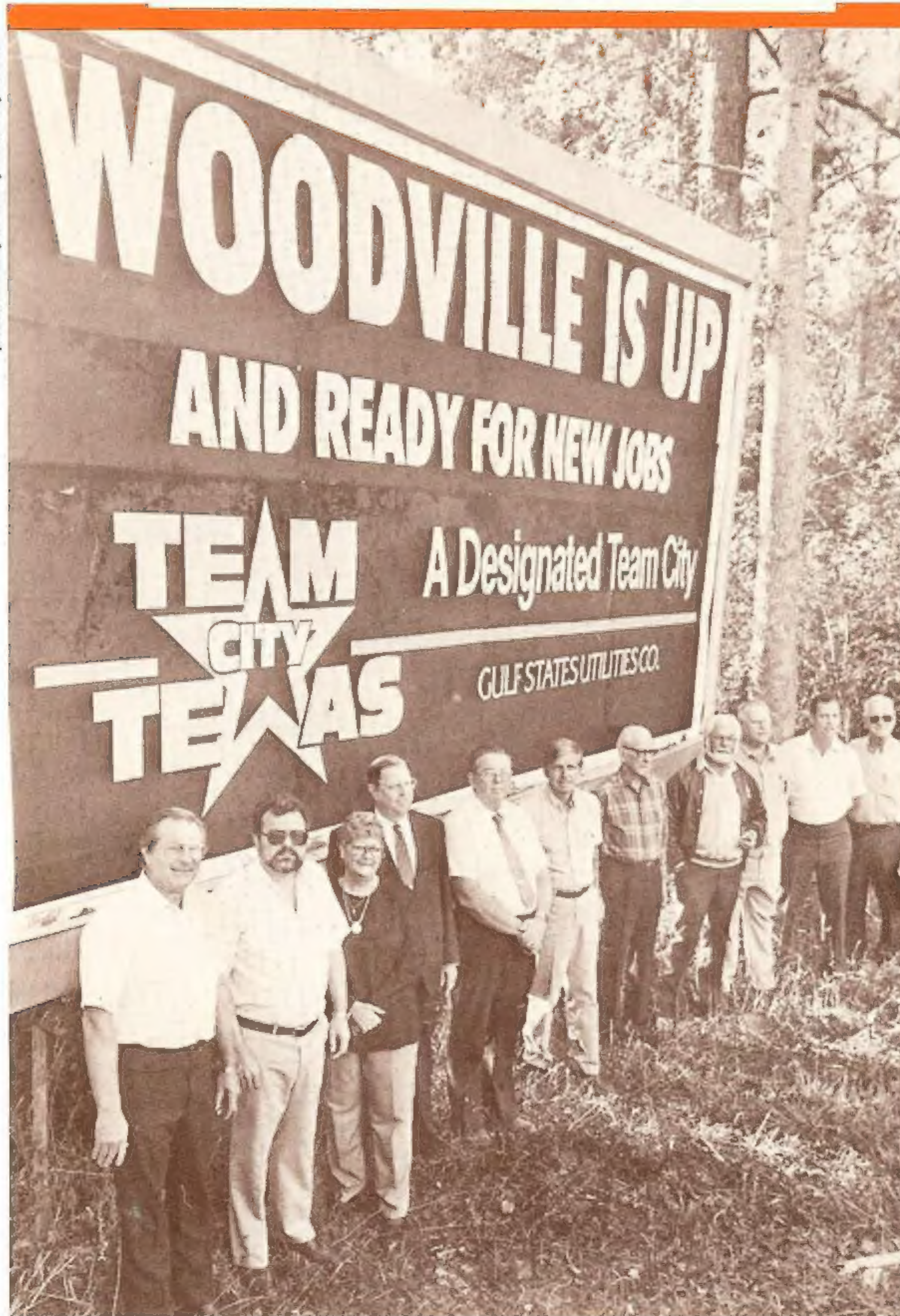
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photo courtesy of The Tyler County Booster



Left, Gene Koci, Woodville superintendent, and officials from the City of Woodville and the Tyler County Chamber of Commerce gather around the Team City Texas billboard located on Highway 190. Woodville was recently designated a Texas Team City.